about 6 million[;], from about 0.4 to about 8.6 percent by weight sodium chloride, from about 0.075 to about 0.3 percent by weight [postassium] potassium chloride, from about 0.04 to about 0.33 percent by weight calcium chloride, from about 0.02 to about 0.04 percent by weight magnesium chloride hexahydrate, from about 0.3 to about 0.4 percent by weight sodium acetate, from about 0.15 to about 0.20 percent by weight of a buffer, remainder water.

Please cancel claim 7.

[7. A ophthalmic surgical method comprising administration by injection of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition which comprises acrylamide or methacrylamide polymers or copolymers thereof having a molecular weight from about 1 to about 6 million and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent into the eye of a patient.]

Please amend claims 8-15 as follows:

8. (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] 15 wherein [the] said polymer[s or copolymers are] is present in an amount between about 2 to about 5 percent by weight of [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel.

11 8 7 15
~~9.~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ wherein [the] said polymer[s or copolymers are] is present in an amount between about 3.5 to about 4.5 percent by weight of [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel.

12 9 7 15
~~10.~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ wherein [the] said polymer[s or copolymers are] is present in an amount between about 4.5 to about 5.5 percent by weight of [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel.

13 10 7 15
~~11.~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ wherein [the] said polymer[s or copolymers are] is present in an amount of about 4 percent by weight of [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel.

14 11 7 15
~~12.~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ wherein said polymer is polyacrylamide.

15 12 7 15
~~13.~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ wherein [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel comprises

(a) 2 to 5 percent by weight [acrylamide or methacrylamide

polymers or copolymers] of said polymer;

(b) 0.4 to 8.6 percent by weight sodium chloride;

(c) 0.075 to 0.3 percent by weight potassium chloride;

(d) 0.04 to 0.33 percent by weight calcium chloride;

(e) 0.02 to 0.04 percent by weight magnesium chloride hexahydrate;

(f) 0.3 to 0.4 percent by weight sodium acetate;

(g) 0.15 to 0.20 percent by weight buffering agent; and

(h) remainder water.

~~14.~~ 16 ~~13~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim ~~13~~ 15 ~~12~~, wherein said buffering agent is sodium citrate dihydrate.

~~15.~~ 17 ~~14~~ (Amended) [A] The method of claim [7] ~~16~~ 7 ~~15~~ wherein [the pharmaceutical composition] said viscoelastic gel [comprises] consists essentially of about 4 percent by weight of said polymer having a molecular weight of about 5 million, about 0.49 percent by weight sodium chloride,

about 0.075 percent by weight potassium chloride, about 0.048 percent by weight calcium, about 0.03 percent by weight magnesium chloride hexahydrate, about [0.03] 0.17 percent by weight sodium citrate dihydrate, remainder water.

Please add new claims 16-18 as follows:

16. A method for protecting ocular tissue during ophthalmic surgery which comprises

injecting into an ocular chamber prior to said surgery an amount of viscoelastic gel sufficient to prevent mechanical damage and denudation of said ocular tissue during said surgery, said viscoelastic gel comprising a polymer selected from polyacrylamide, polymethacrylamide and a copolymer of acrylamide and methacrylamide, said polymer having a molecular weight of from about 1 to about 6 million, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent therefor.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said surgical procedure is an anterior segment surgical procedure.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said anterior segment surgical procedure is cataract removal, corneal

transplant, keratoplasty or bullous rhegmatogenous retinal detachment.

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Two issues remain to be resolved.

In the Office Action dated November 1, 1988, the amendments to the claims submitted with Applicants' response of October 14, 1988 were indicated as not having been entered since they were not presented in proper reissue form.

It is believed that the claims as now presented are in the form required by 37 C.F.R. 1.121; hence, entry of these claims and withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

The remaining issue, that of the presentation of a defective Reissue Declaration, is believed to be resolved by the Substitute Declaration submitted herewith, which Declaration was prepared in accordance with suggestions offered by the Examiner.

The rejection of claims 7-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112 have been rendered moot by the amendments to the claims herein presented, in accordance with the commentary of the